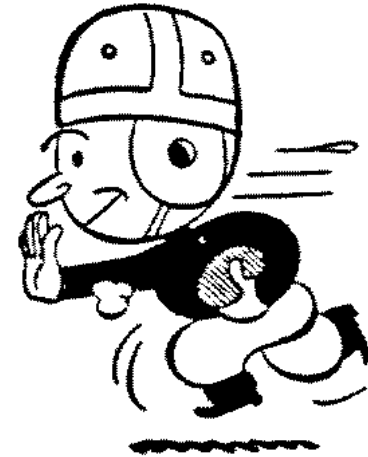


Tempe Parks and Recreation
3500 S. Rural Rd, Tempe, AZ, 85282



“ALL CITY”

**SMALL BALL
FLAG FOOTBALL**



HANDBOOK

WELCOME!

The purpose of this handbook is to inform parents of the “All City” Small Ball Flag Football Program, policies and guidelines. “Communication” is one of the keys to an enjoyable and successful season. All input is more than welcome. If you have questions or comments please don’t hesitate to call a Recreation Staff member anytime before or throughout the season.

The City of Tempe Parks Recreation has a long history of coordinating recreation programs. The program philosophy has been and continues to be quite simple:

1. Participation
2. Skill Development
3. Sportsmanship
4. Friendly Competition
5. Fun Experience

The coaches are encouraged to practice the philosophy by providing the full right to play. There is a quote, “I would rather play and lose than sit on the bench and win.” Participants have clearly demonstrated that playing is more important than winning. Sitting on the bench does not meet our objectives. Studies conducted by the National Association for Youth Sports reports that when children were asked whether they would prefer to be on a winning team and sit the bench or be on a losing team and play regularly, nearly 90% of the children chose to **play and lose**. There is no question about it that children want equality of playing time.



SMALL BALL PROGRAM OUTLINE

NOTES

- This very popular program will teach the fundamentals of the game of flag football.
- Each night will consist of a practice and a game that will last a total time of one hour.
- Each team will be assigned a maximum of 12 players. Players are assigned to teams according to school/area they live in. Parents may request that their son or daughter be placed on a specific team with their child's friends. Please do so as early as possible.
- Location: All Practices and Games will be played at Tempe Sport Complex (Warner and Hardy).
- Equipment: Balls, flags, and uniforms will be provided. Shoes must be worn. Any flat rubber soled shoes or molded rubber cleats are acceptable. No metal cleats. Tennis shoes/sneakers are fine.
- Time: Program will have start times of 6:15 PM and 7:15 PM. Grades K-1st will play on Monday evenings and grades 2-3rd will play on Wednesday evenings.

COACHES

Coaches in the **Small Ball Program** (Grades Kindergarten to 3rd) are paid part-time staff of the City's Recreation Department. These coaches are given the responsibility of providing instruction in the very basics of football. The objectives for these coaches include making sure all of the participants have fun, learn more about the game of football, and see that everyone feels like they are an important part of the team. We have specific requests of these coaches which may be different than what you envision. If you as a parent have a concern please don't hesitate to talk with the field supervisor or the recreation or program coordinator.

My Child's Team Name is: _____

<u>Teammates</u>	<u>Contact Number</u>
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____
8. _____	_____
9. _____	_____
10. _____	_____

TRANSPORTATION OF PLAYERS

Players are responsible for their own transportation to and from games and practice. Coaches should not transport players.

ACCIDENTS

The City of Tempe DOES NOT provide medical insurance. Each family is responsible for their own medical insurance.

If a player is injured, in a practice or a game, please let the Recreation Coordinator know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

In the event of any rule question or cases not covered in the Youth Flag Football Coaches Handbook the Recreation Coordinator shall have the authority to institute new rules or to change rules, to maintain the continuity of the "All City" Youth Flag Football Program.

"ALL CITY" FLAG FOOTBALL STAFF

Shane Isabell, Recreation Coordinator – 350-5222

Alex Jovanovic, Program Coordinator – 350-5207

Richard King, Officials Coordinator – 350-5249

Larry West, Recreation Supervisor – 350-5218

PARENTS' CODE OF ETHICS

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Parent's Code of Ethics Pledge.

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game practice, or other youth sports event.
- I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- I will remember that the game is for the youth –not for adults.
- I will do my best to make youth sports fun for my child.
- I will ask my child to treat the other players, coaches, fans, and officials regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- I promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being respectful fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.
- I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds the Coaches' Code of Ethics.

PLAYERS BILL OF RIGHTS

1. The “All City” Youth Flag Football Program is for the players. It is not for administrators, coaches, or parents. The welfare of all players will be the number one consideration.
2. Each player has the right to participate in every practice and game, no matter what the degree of physical ability or the relative importance of the game in terms of competition.
3. Each player has the right to have a coach who places them first, the team second, himself/herself third, and winning fourth.
4. Each player has the right to have fun participating and to have a supportive coach who takes the time to work with each athlete, regardless of ability or potential.
5. Each player has the right to have fun participating whether he/she plays on a winning or losing team.
6. **As a parent, if you feel that your child's rights are being violated, please contact an “All City” Youth Flag Football staff person.**